From De Rossi's Desk

It is not my natural inclination to look backwards but the month of February was an amazing one for our school and it deserves a little reflection.

We began February – national children's dental health month – as the national kickoff site for the American Dental Association Foundation’s Give Kids A Smile. Our volunteers provided more than $20,000 of in-kind dental care to underserved children in the region. The day is always a source of great pride for me, and this year was no exception.

Days later, we announced the largest gift ever to our school from a generous donor, Dr. Claude A. Adams III. His $27.68 million gift will provide us with the resources to retain and recruit the very best people, revolutionize our curriculum and operations, and embrace and act on our entrepreneurial mindset.

Thanks to his generosity, and in accordance with Dr. Adams' wishes, our school also gained a new name – the UNC-CH Dr. Claude A. Adams Jr. and Ms. Grace Phillips Adams School of Dentistry (or UNC-CH Adams School of Dentistry) – in honor of his beloved parents. The gift is transformational for our school and is a testament to how much faith Dr. Adams III had in Carolina Dentistry.

The month concluded with a visit from the U.S. Ambassador to Singapore, Mr. Ashok Kumar Mirpuri, and a special Dean’s Lecture Series guest: head men's basketball Coach Roy Williams. Coach Williams' stories and his overarching message about teamwork, leadership, education, sacrifice, and persistence clearly resonated with students, staff, and faculty.

Coach’s timely message of "teamwork is sacrificing to achieve a common goal," certainly struck a chord with me given our current work to transform around value for our patients and our learners. Creating our new structure and mindset of "One Carolina Dentistry," requires us to embrace the relentless pursuit of integrated care and collaborative scholarship – and to remember that the only way we succeed is by going the same direction and working together.

I have said repeatedly that UNC-CH Adams School of Dentistry is a special place, with special programs and special people – and February was an incredibly special month. Thank you so for being a part of it, and for being a part of Carolina Dentistry.

Professionally yours,

Scott S. De Rossi, DMD, MBA
Dean and Professor
School News

School Announces Historic Gift

On Wednesday, Feb. 20, the UNC-CH School of Dentistry announced a $27.68 million gift from the bequest of Dr. Claude A. Adams III of Durham. The gift is the largest single donation in school history.

Adams, who died in 2018, practiced dentistry in Durham for almost 25 years. To commemorate the donation, the school has been renamed the UNC-CH Claude A. Adams Jr. and Grace Phillips Adams School of Dentistry in honor of his parents.

Click here to see photos from the media event and celebration.

Amelio Leads Review on the Role of Cell Signaling Proteins in Cancer

Research from Antonio Amelio, PhD, assistant professor at the UNC-CH Schools of Dentistry and Medicine, and UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center scientist, was featured in a review in Trends in Cancer.

His research explores the role of a group of cellular signaling integrators called cAMP-regulated transcriptional co-activators, or CRTCs. This family of newly described proteins involved in the cellular stress response can cause a complex ripple effect of changes within cells that contribute to cancer development and progression.

McPherson and Groody Named to National ASDA Leadership Positions

Kate McPherson and Justin Groody, both DDS Candidates 2020, were recently appointed to leadership roles in the American Student Dental Association (ASDA). McPherson is the incoming Council on Advocacy Chair, and Groody is a Council on Professional Issues Associate. Currently, McPherson and Groody serve as the legislative committee chair and co-president in the School of Dentistry’s ASDA chapter.

Sanders Authors First U.S. Study to Show Water Fluoridation Reduces Income-Related Disparities in Dental Caries Among Children

Anne Sanders, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Dental Ecology, is the lead author in the first study to demonstrate the benefits of community water fluoridation in reducing oral health disparities among children in the United States.

Her research is published in the JAMA Pediatrics. Read more here.

Students Provide More Than $20,000 in No-Cost Dental Care To Local Children

On Friday, Feb. 1, approximately 150 volunteers provided more than $20,000 of free oral health care services to more than 120 local children as a part of the school’s sixth annual Give Kids A Smile® event.
The UNC-CH Adams School of Dentistry served as the American Dental Association Foundation’s kickoff site for Give Kids A Smile® events across the country. The Adams School of Dentistry’s event was organized by Michael Davis, Austin Harbison and Sarah Connell, all DDS Candidates 2020.

Click here to see more photos.

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**Faculty Development Friday**

The next Faculty Development Friday will be held **Friday, March 8** in Brauer 464 at 1 p.m.

Director of Educational Resources and Scholarship, **Michael Wolcott, PharmD, PhD**, will present, "Teaching With Technology: Tips and Tricks to be Successful in the Classroom."

Lunch: 1:00-1:30 p.m.
Program: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

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**Department of Endodontics Co-Sponsors Course**

The Department of Endodontics co-sponsored a national Board Review Course with the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics for endodontists and endodontics residents, including many who are preparing to take the three stages of the ABE examination.

Approximately 200 individuals attended the course, which was held February 15-17 at the Friday Center. **Lauren Patton, DDS, Don Tyndall, DDS, MSPH, PhD, Peter Tawil, DMD, MS**, and **Ashraf Fouad, DDS, MS**, were among the 11 national and international speakers on the program. The course was supported by 13 companies.

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**Office of Global Initiatives hosts University of Gothenburg Faculty**

The Office of Global Initiatives hosted a delegation of Faculty of Medicine from the Sahlgrenska Academy at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. The full Gothenburg delegation was hosted by UNC-CH Center for Global Initiatives.

Sahlgrenska Academy is eager to partner with the Adams School of Dentistry to initiate exchange of students, faculty and research as well as joint projects in oral medicine. Dean Agneta Holmäng, Prof. Ann Wennerberg and Ms. Annelie Hyllner met with Luiz Pimenta, DDS, MS, PhD, Tim Wright, DDS, MS, Silvana Barros, DDS, MS, PhD, and Jim Beck, MS, PhD.

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**Annual Moldova-NC Partnership Seminar**

The Moldova Global Team held their second Moldova-NC Partnership Seminar at the Adams School of Dentistry. Speakers included Rodney Maddox, Deputy Secretary of State, and Professor William Crowther.
Dental students traveling to Moldova this spring learned about the partnership between Moldova and North Carolina, and the socio-political situation of the country from the presenters who have visited, worked or lived there.

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**Division of Operative Dentistry at the Academy of Operative Dentistry Meeting**

This year's Academy of Operative Dentistry meeting in Chicago, Illinois, had the largest presence from the Division of Operative Dentistry and Biomaterials faculty, residents and alumni. Three table clinics were presented by graduate residents Awab Abdulmajeed, DDS, Sama Sulaiman, DDS, and Gustavo Mahn, DDS.

Taiseer Sulaiman, DDS, PhD, was invited to serve as councilor to the Academy. "It is a great honor to be able to serve and represent our division at the academy," said Sulaiman. "We have many challenges ahead and I am looking forward to working with and learning from leaders in our profession."

Alex Delgado, MS '14, alumni of the operative program, received the 2019 Rising Star Faculty Award.

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**Division of Prosthodontics Leads Continuing Education Course**

Wendy Clark, DDS, MS, served as the course director for the "Veneers for Every Day Practice: Practical, Esthetic and Ethical Considerations," CE course at the UNC-CH Adams School of Dentistry.

She was joined by featured Adams School of Dentistry faculty members, Carolina Vera, DDS, DDS, Ingeborg De Kok, DDS, MS, and Alex Yarborough, DDS.

*Pictured, left to right: Yarborough, Vera and De Kok*

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**35th Annual Research Day Award Winners**

The 35th Annual Research Day was an incredible success. Congratulations to all of the presenters and their mentors on a job well done!

Check out this year's award winners below:

- **Bawden Student Award**
  - Michael Davis, DDS Candidate 2020

- **Bawden Mentor Award**
Student and Resident News

- **Islam Abd Alraheam, DDS, MS, and Liz Griffis, DDS**, passed the second part of the American Board of Operative dentistry exam, the first two to pass the exam at the Adams School of Dentistry and an incredible success for the program!

- **Michael Miao, DDS, MS**, third-year oral and craniofacial biomedicine PhD candidate, received the Graduate Student Transportation Grant from the UNC-CH Graduate School Fellowship Office.

- **Christian Piers, DDS**, third-year orthodontic resident, delivered the Vincent A. Barr Visiting Professorship Lecture at the University of Kentucky. His topic was “Are you ready for your next big break? Networking and career-building strategies for the dental professional.” He was also an invited keynote speaker at the Ohio State University ASDA Leadership Summit and the ASDA District 9 Summit in Breckenridge, Colorado in January.

- Pediatric dentistry residents attended the Pediatric Oral Health Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C. The conference is hosted by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and is designed to provide an overview and practical experience advocating for oral health issues. Residents met with eight of North Carolina’s 15 representatives. In attendance were **Jessica Lee, DDS, MPH, PhD, Beau Meyer, DDS, MPH, Scott Cashion, DDS ’94, MS ’97, Kerry Dove, MS ’12, third-year residents Anne Baker, DDS, and Ivy Brishin, DDS, second-year residents Jennifer Crisp, DDS, and Morgan Hess, DDS, and first-year residents Lara Heimisdottir, DDS, Meredith Davis, DDS, and Ana Dokova, DDS, Tim Wright, DDS, MS, and Michael Davis, DDS Candidate 2020**, who were in Washington, D.C. for the AADR Advocacy Conference, joined the group for parts of the conference.

- **Sama Sulaiman, BDS**, third-year operative dentistry resident, defended her master thesis on “Teeth Dehydration/Rehydration and the Effect of Time on Tooth Shade Selection.”
Employee News

- **Amelio Antonio, PhD**, was the invited speaker at the [Gordon Research Conference on Salivary Glands and Exocrine Biology](#) session on "Current Concepts in Salivary Cancer: From Etiology to Treatments."
- **Ryan Cook, DDS, MS, Wendy Clark, DDS, MS, and Lee Boushell, DMD, MS**, teamed up to talk about principles behind, and fabrication of, occlusal guards with the student-led Prosthodontics Interest Group.
- **Christine Downey, DDS, MS**, is the new faculty advisor for the Adams School of Dentistry chapter of Operation Smile.
- **Ibrahim Duqum, DDS, MS**, was selected for the 2019/2020 ADEA Leadership Institute. Dr. Duqum gave an AHEC presentation on "Dental Implants in the Esthetic Zone: Keys to Success" and "Teeth or Implants: An Evidence Based Approach to Treatment Planning." He also presented, "Contemporary Metal Free Partial Dental Removable prosthesis: An Update," to the Davidson County Dental Society, and presented "Digital vs Convention records for Dental Sleep Medicine Therapy" at the Dental Sleep Medicine mini-residency.
- **Farahnaz Fahimipour, DDS, PhD**, research assistant in the Barros lab, submitted the selected cover artwork for the 2019 NC AADR meeting abstract book.
- **Beau Meyer, DDS, MPH**, and the Department of Pediatric Dentistry led the creation of a Team for Children with Oral Trauma and Missing Teeth, which has received pilot funding ($10,000) from the North Carolina Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. The Trauma Team brings together multiple dental specialties to optimize patient care following dental trauma. The team provides quality coordinated and innovative care based on the best-available and most current evidence. The formal establishment of a dedicated trauma team will position the Adams School of Dentistry as a leader in dental trauma-related teaching, research and patient care.
- **Tung Nguyen, DMD, MS**, was the keynote speaker for the 13th International Ecuadorian Society of Orthodontic and Orthopedic meeting in Guayaquil, Ecuador. He gave an all-day lecture on "New Orthopedic Techniques and Technology in Orthodontics." He will also be the keynote speaker for the 36th International Congress of the Colombian Society of Orthodontists in Cali, Colombia in March.
- **Taiseer Sulaiman, DDS, PhD**, was invited to participate in the 3M Key Opinion Leader meeting in Minnesota.
- **Peter Tawil, DMD, MS**, spoke on endodontic surgery at the 2019 College of Diplomates 9th Annual Board Review Course.
- **Don Tyndall, DDS, MSPH, PhD**, gave the following presentations in Chiang Mai, Thailand during the CMDE Biannual Conference: "Cone Beam CT: 3D vision for Dentistry;" "Benign v Malignant: How to tell the difference;" "TMJ imaging (includes MR);" "Incidental findings on CBCT scans is how to manage them;" "Recent advances in intraoral radiography;" "Fibro-osseous and Bone diseases in the jaws." He gave a presentation on "Research at UNC in Advanced Imaging for Dentistry," at the Chiang Mai School of Dentistry. He spoke at the National University of Singapore on "Interpreting CBCT: What You Need to Know."
Carolina Vera, DDS, helped expand the Mexico Project’s area of care to Morelos, Queretaro, Puebla and the State of Mexico. She also arranged meetings with renowned researchers, physicians and institutions to foster international collaboration between the Nacional University of Mexico School of Dentistry, the Benemerita University Autonomus of Puebla, University Autonomus of Queretaro and The Nino Morelense Hospital Department of Craneo-facial Surgery. These partnerships enable the Mexico Project to exchange education, culture and friendship, and benefit students, faculty and patients.

Jennifer Webster-Cyriaque, DDS, PhD, is the chair of the AADR Committee for Inclusion and Diversity.

New Hires

- **Jimmie Anderson**: Accounting Technician, Office of Financial Affairs
- **Arnel Basilio**: Dental Technician, Clinical Affairs
- **LeCynthia Bowles**: Dental Assistant, Oral Surgery
- **Angela Cotton**: Executive Assistant, Dental Foundation of North Carolina
- **Maria Gonzales**: Dental Assistant, Pediatric Dentistry
- **Jessica Hill**: Clinic Administrative Manager, Dental Ecology
- **Nicole Livingston**: Educational Consultant, Academic Affairs

Promotions/New Appointments

- **Monica Petcovic**: Director of Finance and Operations, Dental Faculty Practice

Grants Update

- **Silvana Barros, DDS, MS, PhD** (PI), Periodontology. Research in oral health care focusing on mechanisms for prevention and potential treatment of periodontal disease. Colgate Palmolive award for $450,000.
- **David Zajac, PhD**, (PI), Dental Ecology. "Development of Stop Consonants in Children with Repaired Cleft Palate." Multicenter R01 renewal funded by NIDCR for approximately $3.1 million over five years.

Publications Update

Upcoming Events

- March 1-2: Dental Sleep Medicine Mini-Residency
- March 6, 1 p.m.: Faculty Senate
- March 8, 1-3 p.m.: Faculty Development Friday
- March 12, 1 p.m.: ADEA Learning Community
- March 12, 5 p.m.: Reels with Ritter
- March 13, 1 p.m.: March Madness
- March 13, 5 p.m.: ASDA Mr. Molar Pageant
- March 20, 1 p.m.: Open Forum
- March 21, 8:30 a.m.: New Employee Orientation
- March 22, 8 a.m.: Staff Retreat
- March 29, 8:30 a.m.: [CE Opportunity] 35th Annual R. J. Shankle Lecture
- March 29, 4 p.m.: DDS Class of 2022 White Coat Ceremony, Memorial Hall
- March 30, 8 a.m.: SNDA Oral Cancer 5k/Walk and Health Fair
- April 2, 1 p.m.: ADEA Learning Community
- April 2, 6:30 p.m.: Spurgeon Award Banquet, The Carolina Club
- April 3, 1 p.m.: Faculty Senate
- April 5-6: Dental Sleep Medicine Mini-Residency
- April 6, 7:45 a.m.: [CE Opportunity] Outpatient Dental Anesthesia Update
- April 10, 1 p.m.: ADEA Teach Back
- April 11, 10 a.m.: DDS3 Poverty Simulation
- April 12, 8 a.m.: [CE Opportunity] Advanced Cone Beam CT Interpretation
- April 17, 1 p.m.: Staff Forum
- April 18, 1 p.m.: New Employee Orientation
- April 22, 1 p.m.: ADEA Teach Back
- April 26, 8:30 a.m.: [CE Opportunity] 23rd Annual Dental Hygiene Lecture
- April 30, 1 p.m.: Curriculum Summit
- May 1, 1 p.m.: Faculty Senate
- May 3, 9 a.m.: [CE Opportunity] OSHA, TB, Bloodborne Pathogens and Infection Control
- May 7, 5 p.m.: Night at the Bosh, Boshamer Stadium
- May 15, 1 p.m.: Staff Forum
- May 16, 8:30 a.m.: New Employee Orientation
- May 20, 1 p.m.: Open Forum
- May 24, 8 a.m.: [CE Opportunity] Educational Foundations and Clinical Application for Proprietary Radiology Educators
- May 30-31, 8 a.m.: [CE Opportunity] Frank Brantley Update in General Practice

Anonymous Suggestion Box

At any time, you are invited to share your thoughts, opinions, suggestions or concerns about any topic through our anonymous online suggestion box. Click here to share your thoughts. (Be sure to include your name if you would like follow-up!)

Please note that any complaints or specific concerns about potential violations of University policy should be directed to our Office of Human Resources or reported to the University EOC office.

School Events Calendar

The UNC-CH Adams School of Dentistry has so many great things going on all the time — so to keep things straight, we have created a school-wide events calendar. Note that this calendar is not intended to replace the academic calendar, but rather to share important, interesting events happening at our school.

Prior to scheduling an event to which you intend to invite a portion of or the whole school, you are encouraged to check this calendar to ensure we do not conflicting events.
How do I view this calendar?
Easy! You access this new calendar just like any shared calendar in Outlook. Just search for the shared calendar: SOD - SOD Event Calendar.

How do I add things to this calendar?
Permissions to edit this calendar are restricted to a small group of people. If you have an addition to the calendar, email our Chief Communications and Marketing Officer Tiffany Brannan (tiffany_brannan@unc.edu).

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This message is sent to all students, residents, staff, faculty, and alumni and friends affiliated with the UNC-CH Adams School of Dentistry. Please submit content and corrections to the school’s Chief Communications and Marketing Officer Tiffany Brannan: tiffany_brannan@unc.edu, 919.537.3260.